

## BOOK REVIEW

ALEX GEORGE. 2011. **A Banksia Album: Two Hundred Years of Botanical Art.** (ISBN-13: 978-0-642-27739-8, pbk. flexbound). National Library of Australia, Canberra ACT 2600, AUSTRALIA. (**Orders:** [www.nla.gov.au/](http://www.nla.gov.au/)). \$34.95, 128 pp., color throughout, 9¼" × 11¼".

This volume not only comes with a beautiful eye-catching cover, it captures the reader's attention with its introductory paragraph.

"The banksia illustrations chosen for this book are the work of botanical artists who are represented in the collections of the National Library of Australia. The images cover a period of nearly 240 years, beginning in 1770 with the art of Sydney Parkinson, who sailed on HM Bark *Endeavour* under Lieutenant James Cook, and ending in 2007 with two prints by Celia Rosser of *Banksia rosserae*, a species named in her honour. This introduction discusses the artists whose works appear in this publication."

The author provides a quick three page overview, entitled Biology and Ecology, also with three smaller pictures. This is extremely helpful for those of us who have never been fortunate enough to visit Australia. He also thoughtfully provides definitions of Type specimens, Species, Subspecies, and Variety. Occasionally, he adds additional helpful insights and comments

Page 15, entitled Banksia Album, lists the 29 species beautifully illustrated in the remainder of the volume.

Get comfortable, and be prepared to get lost in fascination of these species.—Helen Jeude, Volunteer and Assistant Editor, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 1700 University Dr., Fort Worth, Texas 76107-3400, U.S.A.